



GLOBAL CYCLING
ADVENTURES

Turkey - Lycian Coast E-Bike and Sail

Yalıçiftlik (Bodrum) to Fethiye

(or vice versa)

OVERVIEW

Be transported back into the distant past as you explore the natural wonders and historical sites of the Lycian Coast accompanied by a knowledgeable tour guide. You'll discover the ancient Rock Tombs of Dalyan, carved into the cliffs by coastal Lycians, and the breath-taking scenery of the Saklikent Canyon. We spend our nights in a comfortable motor yacht in secluded bays being rocked to sleep by the gentle murmur of the waves or head out to enjoy the lively harbour towns and villages with their plentiful cafes and bars.

Highlights

Culture: The magnificent Lycian rock-cut tombs

Nature: Exploring the spectacular Saklikent Canyon on foot.

Activity: Walking around the plane tree of Bayır is said to bring good luck.

Culinary: Don't miss out on trying Gözleme, the thin and spice-filled flatbread.

Souvenir: Pick up something during a stroll through one of the many exciting bazaars!.

Note 1: This tour takes place in the opposite direction on alternate weeks. Please enquire about the departure port for your selected date.

Note 2: There is the option to hire a gravel bike however the pace is determined by the e-bike cyclists so you will need to be fit enough to keep up! Please see our grading details.

- DURATION - 8 DAYS
- AVERAGE DISTANCE PER DAY - 36 KM
- ARRIVAL DESTINATION - YALICIFTLIK (BODRUM)
- DEPARTURE DESTINATION - FETHIYE



ITINERARY

DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN YALICIFTLIK (BODRUM)

We will meet you at Yalıçiftlik a little town belonging to the city district of Bodrum. A collective transfer from Bodrum Airport to the harbour is available for an extra cost on request. Check in begins on the Gulet at 2 pm. This afternoon, enjoy the lively atmosphere in the city of Bodrum and relax with a typical Turkish tea. In the evening we'll get together for a shared dinner on board where you can meet your travel companions and tour guides.

Cycling Distance: 0km Meals: Dinner

DAY 2 YALICIFTLIK TO KORMEN AND KNIDOS

In the early morning, we'll take our first sailing trip of the week - from Yalıçiftlik to Körmön. Once we arrive, we hop on our bikes for our first cycling tour along the Datça peninsula. We will climb for about 450m before heading back down to the sea. On a clear day it's possible to see the Greek islands Nisyros, Tilos and Rhodes. We'll continue cycling along a scenic coastal road then head inland through more rural areas towards Knidos. This afternoon we'll visit the impressive archaeological site located here. We'll spend the night on our floating hotel in one of the most picturesque bays on the Turkish coast.

Cycling Distance: 42 km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner

DAY 3 KNIDOS TO SERCE LIMANI AND CIFTLIK

Today we have plenty of time to relax as we sail to a small bay at the peak of the Bozburun Peninsula. We'll cycle along a secluded mountain road to a village located at 300m above sea level - home to a 1,500-year-old plane tree. A short walk around the plane tree is said to ensure a long and lucky life. There's also a lively bazaar that is well worth a visit. After lunch we'll continue our ride to the bay of Çiftlik where there'll be time to enjoy a refreshing swim in the sea.

Cycling Distance: 49 km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 4 CIFTLIK TO EKINCIK TO DALYAN

During breakfast we cross over to the little harbour of Ekincik, the starting point of today's bike ride. There'll be spectacular views as we cross the pass on our way to the shore of Lake Köyceğiz and on to Sultaniye where we'll have the opportunity to enjoy a healing mud bath. After our stop we'll continue cycling through another small pass until we reach the mouth of the Dalyan River. From here we hop on a small boat for a 30 minute cruise past the impressive Lycian rock-cut tombs overlooking the Dalyan delta and on to our boat which will be anchored near a small rocky island.

Cycling Distance: 31 km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner

DAY 5 KAUNOS TO DALAMAN TO SARSALA BAY

After breakfast the boat brings us close to the ancient city of Kaunos, the first destination of today's bike tour. Kaunos was once located directly on the coast and was an important port town. The harbour now lies 8km from the coast. The remaining ruins give an insight to the former wealth of the city. After visiting the site, we'll cycle across the fertile Dalaman plains with their cotton fields and orchards and take a well-deserved break in a tea house in Dalaman. We'll finish today's ride by crossing another small pass as we head towards the beautiful bay of Sarsala where our boat will be waiting.

Cycling Distance: 42 km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner

DAY 6 SARSALA BAY TO GEMILER BAY AND FETHIYE

After breakfast we'll cruise past numerous small islands before reaching Gemiler Bay. The island is also known as St. Nicolas Island after a church was built here for the saint in the 5th century. Back on the mainland we'll cycle through a pine forest to the 1922 abandoned Greek city of Kayaköy, once home to 6,500 people. From here we continue our bike ride to Fethiye. You can choose to ride an extra few kilometres to a small peninsula where you can take a swim in one of its quiet bays or beautiful beaches. In the evening you can spend time exploring the city of Fethiye with its local bazaar. The old town with its narrow, winding alleyways, typical corner houses and the Eski Cami Mosque is also worth a visit.

Cycling Distance: 33 km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner

DAY 7 FETHIYE DAY TRIP TO SAKILIKENT CANYON

The day starts with a 60-minute bus transfer to Cavdir where we will start today's ride. We will bike from here to the Saklikent Canyon and stop for lunch on the riverbank. In Turkish "Saklikent" means "Hidden City". You will have time to explore this spectacular canyon by foot. Afterwards we'll take our last bike ride to Kadiköy, where we will take a short transfer to the ancient town of Tlos - once one of the largest towns in Lycia. After our visit we'll take another transfer back to the boat in Fethiye.

Cycling Distance: 27 km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner

DAY 8 DEPARTURE FROM FETHIYE

It's time to say "farewell". Check out is after breakfast. Please organise your own onward travel. We can arrange a collective transfer to the airport (extra cost) or you may want to extend your stay in Turkey.

Cycling Distance: 0 km Meals: Breakfast

INCLUDED IN THE TOUR

- 7 nights on a deluxe gulet (twin cabin with ensuite)
- Meals: as listed in itinerary
- English speaking tour guide(s)
- Bed linen and towels
- Guided bike tours and sightseeing as described in the itinerary
- Entrance fees to archaeological sites as listed in itinerary (group visits only)
- Overview maps for the daily bike tours
- Drinking water on board

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR

- Flights, travel visas, travel insurance
- Airport transfers day 1 & 8
- Bike Hire
- Optional bike insurance - €28 pp
- Helmet (compulsory) bring your own or hire in advance
- Single room surcharge
- Meals not included in the itinerary
- Personal expenses & alcoholic drinks
- Tips
- Visitors tax, bottled water, tea and coffee € 80 pp - payable on board
- SGR insolvency protection scheme €5pp
- Special dietary requests €70 pp
- Beach towel

TOUR GRADE 4: HARD

Off-the-beaten-track destinations don't come easy and our HARD trips explore mountainous destinations by bike.

Although the daily distances range from only 27 to 49km, this tour takes us through mountainous terrain with demanding ascents ranging from 300 to 900 meters. Many people underestimate the challenge of hill climbing. The daily itineraries can be mastered more easily with electronic assistance and will make for a more comfortable journey.

The roads are mostly asphalt but very rough. There is no such thing as smooth asphalt in Turkey! Be prepared for potholes and loose chippings. The rental bikes are all equipped with thick tyres and good suspension to compensate for the bumps.

Most of the rides are through rural areas with very little to no traffic although it will be a little busier in and around the coastal towns.

Cyclists on this tour need excellent bike handling skills and be confident on steep and hilly terrain with rough surfaces and steep hair pin bends.

Cyclists must be experienced and confident handling e-bikes as they are significantly heavier and faster than conventional bikes.

Climbing preparation and regular training off-road and in the hills is key. You should be comfortable with long rides and long climbs with a long time in the saddle on consecutive days.

You will need a very good level of fitness - long rides three times a week with a longer, more challenging hill ride on the weekends.

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